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The University of Dayton

News Release

DASH OF HUMOR PLANNED FOR UD MUSIC PERFORMANCE

DAYTON, Ohio, March 21, 1989--Do pieces such as "Tarragon of Virtue" and "Bide Thy Thyme" belong on the program for a serious music performance?

Sure, when the performance coincides with April Fools' weekend. The University of Dayton Chamber Orchestra will pay a tribute to April Fools' Day during its performance on Sunday, April 2 at 3 p.m. in the Immaculate Conception Chapel on campus. Admission to the concert, which will also feature the UD Chamber Choir and University Chorale, is free and open to the public.

As the classical version of music humorist Spike Jones, composer Peter Schickele has presented the music world with "The Seasonings," a piece written under the name P.D.Q. Bach. Featuring such movements as "Open Sesame Seeds," the work relies on traditional instruments as well as slide whistles, kazoos and a foghorn.

"Humor is a very serious business," said Phillip Magnuson, director of the orchestra and associate professor of music at UD. "The difficult thing about playing a piece such as 'The Seasonings' is to make sure the audience is laughing with us and not at us. So it's a challenge to prepare." Soloists will be sopranos Rose Drance and Sarah Porretta, altos Maura Donahue and Vickie Novel, tenor Michael Wright and bass Tom Helsel.

The Chamber Orchestra will also perform "Symphony No. 5 in B Flat Major" by Franz Schubert at the concert.

The UD Chamber Choir will perform works by Thomas Weelkes, John Dowland, Orazio Vecchi and Melchior Vulpius. The University Chorale will perform "He's Watching Over Israel" from "Elijah" by Felix Mendelssohn as well as works by Maurice Durufle and Robert Washburn. Both groups are directed by Robert McMillan, director of choral music at UD.

For further information on the performance, call (513) 229-3936.

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